



# THE Q-FIVER

K8SCH



OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE OH-KY-IN AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY, INC.  
PUBLISHED MONTHLY AT CINCINNATI, OHIO



Our 48<sup>th</sup> Year of Service to Cincinnati in Amateur Radio  
 A Special Service Club of the American Radio Relay League  
 (the national association for Amateur Radio)

### OFFICERS & BOARD

President	Dallas Vanselow	KC8HQ5	513=939-2592	kc8hqs@fuse.net
Vice President	Gary Coffey	KB8MYC	513=382-3979	gcoffey22@fuse.net
Cor. Secretary	Phil Smith	KG8AP	513=771-7839	kg8ap@arrl.net
Rec. Secretary	Brian DeYoung	K4BRI	859=635-3095	k4bri@arrl.net
Treasurer	Kevin Moeller	KI4PJK	859=586-9964	kevinmoeller@fuse.net
Directors	Nathan Ciufu	KA3MTT	859-586-2435	ka3mtt@arrl.net
	Brian Fulmer	KC8FJN	513=235-8578	fulmer3832@aol.com
	Bruce Vanselow	N8BV	513=251-1555	n8bv@juno.com
Trustee/Licensee	Bruce Vanselow	N8BV	513=251-1555	n8bv@juno.com

### OH-KY-IN Repeaters

146.670 (-) Clifton 146.925 (-) Colerain Twp. 146.625 (-) Withamsville

### Web Pages

<http://www.ohkyin.org> <http://www.ardfusa.com> (ARDF)

Regular monthly meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM local time at Salem Presbyterian Church (corner Mozart & Higbee) behind the Harrison-Boudinot White Castle, in Westwood-Cheviot. Visitors are ALWAYS welcome!

### For membership information, contact

Nathan Ciufu KA3MTT, 6323 Cinnamon Ridge Dr, Burlington KY 41005, 859=586-2435,  
 [ka3mtt@arrl.net]

Permission is hereby granted to any amateur radio group to quote or reprint from this publication, provided proper source credit is given, unless permission is otherwise reserved.

*The Q-FIVER* is the official newsletter of OH-KY-IN ARS, edited & published monthly by Susie Scott N8CGM 6351 Daleview Road 45247 513=385-5201 Editor

Electronic copies: Adobe Acrobat

*The Q-FIVER* is mailed and e-mailed the Wednesday before the club meeting. Copy deadline is the weekend before that. Please send submissions for *The Q-FIVER* (including notice of upgrades & call sign changes) to Ye Ed Susie N8CGM. These may be:

- > snail-mailed to or dropped off at 6351 Daleview Rd Cinti OH 45247
- > telephoned to 513=385-5201 any time (answerer takes up to 4 min dictation)
- > e-mailed to [n8cgm@arrl.net]

# THE Q-FIVER

(kyoo fye ver) Q: A scale of amateur radio signal readability progressing from 1 (unreadable) to 5 (perfectly readable). "You're Q5" = "Your signal is perfectly readable." (ARRL Handbook, 52d ed. 1975)

*April 2008 Volume 48 Number 4*

## **From the President...**

Hey.

I hope everybody had a Happy Easter.

Don't forget about the OH-KY-IN Awards Dinner one week after the April club meeting. We'll be at Nick & Tom's Restaurant on Bridgetown Road in Green Township on Tuesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> starting at 7:00 PM. No reservations are needed. Just show up and find out who the 2007 Ham of the Year will be. I hope to see you there.

Also, if you haven't heard, QCEN, WARN & us have come together to hold a 1 day Technician Class on Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. We will have an exam session for all license classes the following Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup> @ 12 Noon. If you are a VE we can use your help for the Exam session. As I type this, we have already had quite a few inquiries and a few pre-registrants. If you are interested or know of somebody who is, please register before April 11<sup>th</sup>. Pre-register by going to <http://1dayclass.ohkyin.org> or calling (513) 471-8866.

By the way, the April club meeting happens to be on April Fool's Day, and we WILL be meeting on that date.

See you at the April club meeting!

73, Dale KC8H2S

## **Next meeting**

The April topic may be in question. The speaker promised to speak, now is waffling.

To get to the meeting from downtown Cincinnati, go northwest on Glenway Ave. to Boudinot Ave. (approximately 4 miles; at Walt Sweeney Ford on right). Turn slight right on to Boudinot. After approximately 1 1/2 miles turn left on to Mozart (before the White Castle). The church is on the right. Please come in under the stairs as usual, as our usual meeting room is now available again.

More info can be found at: <http://www.ohkyin.org>.

Visitors always welcome!

73, Gary KB8M4C

## **Minutes for the General Membership meeting, Oh-Ky-In Amateur Radio Society March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

Dale KC8HQS called the meeting to order at 7:37 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. *Cntd pg 5*

**1 Day  
AMATEUR RADIO  
CLASS**

For Entry Level Technician License

**Sat. April 19th**

**8am - 4pm**

IN

***WESTERN HILLS***

For more information:

**513-471-8866**

OR

**classes@ohkyin.org**

**EXAM: APRIL 26 12 NOON**

Guests included Scott Uler, just getting into radio -- 21 members attending.  
 No new licensees, no upgrades – proceeded to self introductions.  
 Health and Welfare – heard about Rick KD4PYR’s eye surgery – get well quickly!  
 Brag session heard Greg went to the Cave City hamfest.  
 The program was by Tom Peterson – “Red Cross Ready”.  
 Break from 8:11 to 8:30.  
 Dale thanked Gary KB8MYC for running the hospitality table.  
 Motion was made to accept the printed minutes by Gene NU8U, seconded by Jim W8IOA – motion passed.  
 Membership - Nathan KA3MTT not present - we are currently at 71 members for 2008  
 Treasurer - Kevin KI4PJK was not present, reports were passed around.  
 Bruce N8BV reported nothing new for the silent key committee.  
 Brian K4BRI reported nothing new for the tech committee – no meeting scheduled.  
 Guests included Scott Uler, just getting into radio -- 21 members attending.  
 No new licensees, no upgrades – proceeded to self introductions.  
 Health and Welfare – heard about Rick KD4PYR’s eye surgery – get well quickly!  
 Brag session heard Greg went to the Cave City hamfest.  
 The program was by Tom Peterson – “Red Cross Ready”.  
 Break from 8:11 to 8:30.  
 Dale thanked Gary KB8MYC for running the hospitality table.  
 Motion was made to accept the printed minutes by Gene NU8U, seconded by Jim W8IOA – motion passed.  
 Membership - Nathan KA3MTT not present - we are currently at 71 members for 2008  
 Treasurer - Kevin KI4PJK was not present, reports were passed around.  
 Bruce N8BV reported nothing new for the silent key committee.  
 Brian K4BRI reported nothing new for the tech committee – no meeting scheduled.  
 Mike KC8YOM and David KC8YTJ not here for equipment managers.  
 Classes and Exams – Gary announced that we are hosting a 1 day Tech class on April 19<sup>th</sup>, exam on the 26th.  
 Bruce N8BV reported that the Fundraising committee still has hats and shirts  
 Bruce N8BV reported nothing new for Tech Talk

.....  
**Radio's Plus**  
 Joe Davidson KB8SBN  
 11641 Colthar Dr  
 Bethel OH 45106-9669  
 513=752-9570  
 .....

**KC8HQS Items**  
**eBay seller of Ham radio equipment**  
**and accessories**  
  
**I sell the item - you get the money!**  
  
**Call: (513) 295-2592**  
**or**  
**email: kc8hqs@fuse.net**



**(513) 366-0855**      **Wm BEXTON**  
**PO BOX 5261**        **MANAGER**  
**GINGERS@OH.45205**   **N8RYR@juno.com**

**Amateur Accessories, Inc.**  
 "Our Name Says It All!"  
**STEVE ZAHOS KR4S**  
 • Hamfests • Internet • Mail Order  
 MFJ, Heil, MAHA, Diamond, Flansey, Battery-Tech, ARRL, Etc.  
 P.O. Box 7333                      Phone (217) 352-1725  
 Champaign, IL 61826            Fax (217) 352-1781  
 E-Mail: kr4s@msn.com  
 www.amateuraccessories.com

The Audit committee plans to meet before the next meeting on April 1<sup>st</sup>

The Awards committee announced that the dinner will be at Nick and Tom's, April 8<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM.

Pete KC8BZM reported for liaisons – WARN meeting on April 4<sup>th</sup>, QCEN on March 11<sup>th</sup>, ARPSC on March 7<sup>th</sup>

Old business - None

New business - Go cart racing at Competition Racing in Lawrenceburg IN

The random member drawing winner was Herb W8HRN – not present – would have been \$50

Split the pot of \$15 was won by Phil KG8AP.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:01 PM

Respectfully submitted – *Brian DeYoung K4BR1*, Recording Secretary

⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘

During a recent trip my wife & I were on, we drove around the back woods of East Texas. On one back road we saw a sign in front of a broken down shanty-style house: "Talking Dog for Sale". Well, I needed a break, so I stopped to see what the deal was. I went into the back yard to see a nice looking Labrador retriever sitting there.

"You talk?" I asked. "Yep," the Lab replied.

Well, after I got over the shock of hearing a dog talk, I asked, "What's your story?"

"Ah shucks, there ain't much to tell. Is that a VUU screwdriver antenna on your truck out there?"

"How did you know that?" I asked.

The Lab looks up & says, "Well, I'm a ham radio operator. I got my Ticket when I was a young pup & in no time at all I had my 5 band DXCC in Phone & CW. The CIA heard about me & asked me to do some spy work for them. I would hang around the communications centers &, with my keen hearing, I could copy the transmissions. Because no one figured a dog would be eavesdropping, I was one of their most valuable spies for 8 years. Copying high-speed CW all day really tired me out & I knew I wasn't getting any younger. So I decided to settle down. I retired from the CIA (8 dog years is 56 CIA years) & joined a ham radio club. In fact I won first place in the Oklahoma QSO Party 2 years in a row. Then I had a mess of puppies & got away from ham radio for a while. I sure miss my radio. Why don't you buy me & I'll be your CW operator in the Texas QSO Party?"

I said, "Let me see what I can do." I went back in & asked the owner what he wanted for the dog.

"\$10," the guy says.

"\$10? This dog is amazing! Why on earth are you selling him so cheap?"

"Because he's a liar. He never did any of that stuff. He's just a No Code Technician."

-- from Massillon ARC *Feedback*, December 2007

**FCC Cell phone backup proposal and ARES** posted Mon, Mar 10, recommended by Bruce N8BV

Dear Fellow PIOs:

The Associated Press ran the story below last Friday (March 7, 2008). I don't see any action that needs to be taken now with this, but the story is definitely worth watching as to future impact on ARES operations and how ham radio operators respond in a widespread disaster.

As a result of Hurricane Katrina, the FCC is ruling that all 210,000 cell phone towers in the nation be equipped with 8 hours of back-up capability.

The cell phone industry is rebelling from a cost standpoint. A cell phone executive is quoted as saying that in metropolitan areas where cell traffic can be heavy during and after a disaster, the amount of batteries needed to sustain 8 hours of talk time would equate to 1,500 lbs. Since so many cell repeaters are located on roof tops, most roof top installations can't sustain that much weight.

Feel free to use a search engine to research more on this topic. As of this morning there were 246 related articles on Google News since last Friday's original AP story, an excerpt of which is shown below. Please share this information with your club and local ARES organization. The information clearly shows the superiority of amateur radio following a widespread disaster. Even if the cell phone industry completes

full concluded on page 12 *The 2-Fiver, Ok-Ky-In ARES, April 2008 page 6*



The OH-KY-IN A.R.S. presents

# AMATEUR RADIO EXAMS

**Saturday, April 26**

12:00 Noon

Salem Presbyterian Church

*Western Hills Area  
of Cincinnati*

**Walk-Ins Accepted!**

*For Info Call:*

**859-635-3095**

***E-MAIL: exams@ohkyin.org***

# AMATEUR RADIO

## April 2008 DX Spots – de Nathan, KA3MTT

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
JD1BMM-Minami Torishima thru 4-7 ----- CE0Z-Juan Fernandez thru 4-7	EL-Liberia thru 4-30 ----- VK9ANU-Norfolk Isl thru 4-2	1 D4C-Cape Verde thru 4-2 ----- 5R8HT-Madagascar thru 4-17	2 A7-Qatar thru 6-30	3	4 KH2-Guam thru 4-5	5
6 6V7I-Senegal thru 4-12	7 KH0-Mariana Islands thru 4-16	8	9 V63-Micronesia thru 4-16 ----- 3B8-Mauritius thru 4-24	10	11	12
13	14	15	16 T8-Palau thru 4-19 ----- P40ZB-Aruba thru 4-24	17	18	19 GB0U-Guernsey thru 4-26
20	21 MJ0MJH-Jersey thru 4-25	22 ZA-Albania Thru 5-3		24	25	26
	28	29	30	31	31	



\* **ARRL DXCC Desk Approves 3C7Y Operation:** ARRL DXCC Manager Bill Moore NC1L reports that the 2007 3C7Y DXpedition to Equatorial Guinea has been approved for DXCC credit. "If you had cards rejected for this operation, please send an e-mail [dxcc@arrl.org] to the ARRL DXCC Desk to have your DXCC record updated," Moore said. *ARLD011*, Mar 6, 2008  
**OPERATIONS APPROVED FOR DXCC CREDIT.** The following operations have been approved for DXCC credit: Kermadec Island, ZL1GO/8, 2007 operation. *ARLD012*, Mar 13, 2008;. TX5C, Clipperton Island. VP6DX, Ducie Island. Both are 2008 operations. *ARLD013*, Mar 20, 2008

## Contests

April 2008

- 1 DC and Daylight Contest, Contacts made by flashing lights and shocking hand buzzers (QRP only for safety!)
- 1-3 DX YL to NA YL, CW
- 5-6 QCWA Spring QSO Party; MT QSO Party; MO QSO Party; EA RTTY Contest; SP DX Contest
- 7 Low Power Spring Sprint, CW; VHF Spring Sprints
- 8-10 DX YL to NA YL, Phone
- 12-13 GA QSO Party; EU spring Sprint, CW; PSK31 Flavors Contest; EU EME Contest; JA International DX contest, CW; Yuri Gagarin Contest, CW
- 15 VHF Spring Sprints
- 19-20 EA QRP Contest, CW; EU Spring Sprints, Phone; TARA Skirimish Digital Prefix Contest; Kids Roundup, Phone; MI QSO Party; Motorola QSO Party; ONT QSO Party; Holyland DX Contest; ES Open HF Championship
- 23 VHF Spring Sprints
- 26-27 FL QSO Party; NB QSO Party; Helvetia Contest Old-Old-Timers Club QSO Party; SP DX RTTY Contest

Try out those new antennas, put up during the snow to insure maximal efficiency, For more information see *QST*, *CQ*, or <http://www.arrl.org/contests/>

73, *Dan K74AV*

**2008 Awards Dinner, Tue Apr 8, 7 PM at Nick & Tom's, 5774 Bridgetown Rd**

**No need to reserve; you may order off their menu!**

**Come see who gets the Ham of the Year Award!**

**Queries to 513=295-2592**

## OHIO SECTION NEWS FOR APRIL '08

By Joanne Solak, KJ3O, Ohio Affiliated Clubs Coordinator

THINK SPRING and to All a Happy Easter Season.

THANK YOU for all the great newsletters, e-mails, letters, invitations to your club meetings and your events. Keep them coming.

I have been fortunate to have attended several hamfests in the area this year and quite honestly they all seem to be well attended. I do know the League Table is well attended and we are kept

busy from beginning to end. Lots of questions and literature are flying off the table.

Seems there are lots of "new" amateurs interested in awards. I think that is great!

There are lots of ideas out there for making your club meetings more interesting and thus better attended. Anything from speakers, videos, classes, etc. One thing that seems to be most popular is naming a "ham of the year" award in your club. You can choose a committee for that purpose. Use the point system and decide accordingly whomever makes the most points qualifies for "ham of the year" award. Any other ideas, send them my way so we can share them.

Tornado and Severe weather Spotter training sessions are scheduled all around the Ohio Section. In fact, some have already been held, others scheduled in the upcoming month. Make sure to attend one of these sessions in your area.

A very popular event with Ohio Section Affiliated Clubs, as well as other affiliated clubs throughout the Country, is FIELD DAY! It is not too early to start planning your event. Find the perfect place for your Club Field Day. Media Publicity has to be requested in time for the reporters to schedule your club for publicity. The local media likes to have events scheduled especially for photos well ahead of time. Remember to place your newspaper articles in the local papers as a press release or just an article announcing your event. Invite State and/or County Officials to your Field Day. Get your traffic handlers ready to send traffic and pick up traffic for your club. ( Details on the points are in the Field Day rules and traffic net frequencies are in the rules as well). Field Day will be held June 28-29 this year 2008. Schedule GOTA stations for your event and get the public involved and remember to have a control operator in attendance in case an unlicensed person cares to get on the air. Get a list of the Field Day Bonus points and see how many you can qualify for on the date of the event.

The Annual ARES Conference for the Ohio Section will be held on Saturday, March 29th at the Ohio Fire Academy in Reynoldsburg.

Congratulations! to the Lake County ARA, The Milford ARC, and the Massillon ARC. These Clubs have all been reviewed and renewed as Special Service Clubs!

Check your Club status and register your renewals as needed. REMEMBER TO FILE THE ANNUAL REPORT FORM! Keep all your Club information current with the ARRL.

If you have any Club information to share with the Ohio Section, just send me the information by the 10th of the month.

Remember to support your Ohio Section Hamfests!

Many Clubs are sponsoring Amateur Radio License Classes. Make sure you list them in your local newspapers and announce them on your local nets.

I have been notified several Club meetings were rescheduled due to the heavy snow storm that hit North East Ohio. ARES groups were activated to help out in several places.

The 20/9 Club remains active with many events on their calendar. The VE Exams, the Skywarn Training Session, Amateur Licensing Classes, the various training nets and on and on. A very busy Club.

The Massillon ARC remains quite busy also. Stark County ARES involved with the Skywarn program see a very busy season ahead. Their local ARES members plan to attend the Ohio Section ARES Conference on the 26th.

The Pioneer Amateur Radio Fellowship is sponsoring a Dayton Hamvention Bus. If you decide to ride the bus to the Dayton Hamvention<sup>R</sup>, call Joy Spencer KA8TDF at 330=745-5115 for further

information!

The Mount Vernon Club will be Celebrating FIFTY years affiliation with the ARRL in September .  
CONGRATULATIONS!

Well, that's it for this month. The Ohio Section is gearing up for a very busy year. So keep in mind that sometime, somewhere, when you least expect it, I will be seeing YOU!

Best 73, *Joanne Solak KJ30*, ACC Ohio

#### **OHIO SECTION CABINET LISTING:**

SM: Joe Phillips K8QOE, Fairfield, (to contact me, see *QST* page 16 or on the Web at <[www.iarc.ws/ohio](http://www.iarc.ws/ohio)>; ASM-NE: Bob Winston W2THU, Cleveland; ASM-NW: Ron Griffin N8AEH, Findlay; ASM-Central: Bill Carpenter AA8EY, Westerville; ASM-SW: John Haungs W8STX, Cincinnati; ASM-SE: Connie Hamilton N8IO, Marietta; SEC: Frank Piper KI8GW, Pickerington; ACC: Joanne Solak KJ30, Mantua; TC: Tom Holmes N8ZM, Tipp City; PIC: Emily Wells KC8RAL, Warren; OOC: Rick Swain KK8O, Galion; SGL: Nick Pittner WB8TMF, West Jefferson; STM: John Tipka, W8UL, Reynoldsburg.



The **OHKYIN Racers** appear to have formed! Those pictured (KC8HQ5, KG8AP, N8BV, Jeff Vanselow, K4BRI) attended the March OH-KY-IN outing at Competition Racing.

We have done this outing several times now and it was decided by the group that we (-informally- the OHKYIN RACERS) will continue this outing to be scheduled for the evening of the 5th Tuesday of every month. For any additional information about the track or regarding prices, please refer to [www.competitionracing.net](http://www.competitionracing.net). Looks like our next event date will be Tuesday, April 29, 2008 at 7:30 PM. 73, *Bruce N8BV*

## **Hamfests &c.**

**April 2008**

12 Coalton OH sponsored by Jackson Co ARC at James A Rhodes Community Ctr, SR 93, public 9 AM-1 PM. Hamfest, radio, electronics & computer show, fleas all indoors, dealers, vendors, VE sessions at 10 AM, breakfast & lunch provided, handicapped accessible. \$5. Talk-in: 146.79. Info: Jim Dennett W8ZUA, [[w8zua@copper.net](mailto:w8zua@copper.net)], [www.arrlohiodistrict8.org/jackson.html](http://www.arrlohiodistrict8.org/jackson.html)

20 3d Annual N Central IN Hamfest in Peru IN, sponsored by Grant, Miami, Blackford Co & Kokomo ARCs at Miami Co 4H Fairgrounds, corner Mexico Rd & County Rd 200N. 7 AM-2 PM. VE sessions 8 AM-10 AM. Talk-in: 147.345. \$5. Info: CJ Sponaugle N9LYY, 765=453-9256, [[n9lyy@arrl.net](mailto:n9lyy@arrl.net)], [www.ncihamfest.com](http://www.ncihamfest.com)

20 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Cuyahoga Falls OH Hamfest sponsored by Cuyahoga Falls ARC at Emidio & Sons Party Ctr, 48 E Bath Rd. 8 AM-1:30 PM. Electronics & Computer Show. Talk-in: 147.27. \$5 advance, \$6 gate. Info: Ted Sarah W8TTS, 330=688-2013, [[hamfest2008@cfarc.org](mailto:hamfest2008@cfarc.org)], [www.cfarc.org/hamfest2008.htm](http://www.cfarc.org/hamfest2008.htm)

*The 2-Fiver, Oh-Ky-In ARS, April 2008 page 11*

26 Ashland KY Hamfest, sponsored by River Cities ARA at Ntl City Bank parking lot, 11<sup>th</sup> & Carter Ave. Tailgating, fleas. Free. Info: Roger Castle K4QYK, 606=473-5643, [rogerc5@earthlink.net], [www.rcara.org](http://www.rcara.org)

27 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Athens OH Hamfest, sponsored by Athens Co ARA at Athens Community Rec Ctr, 701 E State St. 8 AM-1 PM. Large indoor & outdoor flea area, VE exams (register at 9 AM, info [asellers@greenapple.com]), refreshments. Talk-in: 145.15. \$5, non-ham spouses free. Info: Drew McDaniel W8MHV, 740=592-2106, [mcdanied@ohio.edu], [www.ac-ara.org](http://www.ac-ara.org)

⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘

Posted Thursday, March 20, 2008 9:47 PM on Miami Valley Bulletin Board **For Sale**

MFJ-971 HF portable tuner. It has setting for 300 watts or 6 watts for qrp. Excellent condx. \$60  
Hallicrafters SX-110 Rcvr with matching speaker. Very good condx. Clean and in working condx. With manual. \$200

Midland 23-126 HF transmitter swr field strength meter. Very good condx. In original box. With manual and telescoping antenna. \$15

Micronta vhf/uhf swr power meter. Model 19-320 Very good condx. In original box. \$35

Heathkit remote coax switch. Very good condx. Model SA-1480. 5 position. With manual. \$100

The items that do not sell will be going on eBay in 2 weeks from March 20

Henry [W8TOG@ARRL.net]

⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘

*concluded from page 6* 8 hour sustainability, there will continue to be disasters that last much longer.

TNX es 73, *Bill Morine N2COP*, PRC Chairman

### **Cell Carriers Fight Backup Power Rule**

By DAVID TWIDDY - 2 days ago

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) - When Hurricane Katrina assaulted the Gulf Coast in 2005, wind and flooding knocked out hundreds of cell towers and cell sites, silencing wireless communication exactly when emergency crews and victims needed it.

To avoid similar debacles in the future, the Federal Communications Commission wants most cell transmitter sites in the U.S. to have at least eight hours of backup power in the event main power fails, one of several moves regulators say will make the nation's communication system stronger and more reliable.

⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘

### **VE exam opportunities**

**1<sup>st</sup> Sat each month:** Cincinnati-Hartwell, sponsored by GCARA, at Hartwell Presbyterian Church.

Register 8:30 AM; walk-ins only! All licence classes. Info: Dale Pritchett KC8HJL, 513=769-0789.

**2d Mon each month:** Edgewood KY, sponsored by NKARA, at Turkeyfoot Middle School, 3230 Turkeyfoot Rd. Register 6 PM. Follow the signs. Pre-registration preferred, walk-ins accepted. Info: Lyle Hamilton AB8SH, 513=315-4032. Talk-in 147.255.

**Wednesday April 23** in the Verity Lodge, Miami University-Middletown, Middletown OH, sponsored by DIAL ARC. Doors open at 6 PM, complete registry by 7 PM. Walk-ins on space-available basis. Info Carl Morgan K8CM, 513=727-3456.

**High Noon Sat, Apr 26** at Salem Presbyterian Church, sponsored by Oh-Ky-In. Walk-ins OK. Info: 859=635-3095.

**In all cases** exams require 2 IDs (preferably one with photo). Bring original as well as photocopy of current licence, any CSCE, pen or pencil. Current exam fee is \$14.

## What's coming in April 2008

- Tue, Apr 1 7:30 PM Club meeting at Salem Presbyterian Church, Mozart & Higbee in Westwood-Cheviot behind Harrison-Boudinot White Castle  
Program: Still to be determined at deadline date
- Wed, Apr 2 9:00 PM Tech Talk, NCS Emily K4MLE, 146.925
- Fri, Apr 4 8:00 PM Amateur Radio Public Svc Corps, Hamilton Co Communications Ofc Conference Rm, 2377 Civic Ctr Dr – park in Bd of Educ lot
- Tue, Apr 8 7:00 PM Oh-Ky-In Awards Dinner, Nick & Tom's Restaurant, 5774 Bridgetown Rd, Green Twp – no reservations needed, order from menu
- Wed, Apr 9 9:00 PM Tech Talk, NCS Dale KC8HQS ,146.925
- Sat, Apr 12 10:00 AM Oh-Ky-In monthly fox hunt, hounds start from Mt Storm Park (talk-in to start on 146.67)
- Wed, Apr 16 9:00 PM Tech Talk, NCS Dennis KB8ROA,146.925
- Fri, Apr 18 7:30 PM Queen City Emergency Net at Red Cross HQ, 820 Sycamore St
- Sat, Apr 19 8 AM-4 PM All-day Technician Theory course, cosponsored by Oh-Ky-In, WARN & QCEN Salem Presbyterian Church, Mozart & Hige, Westwood, behind the Boudinot Ave White Castle
- Tues, Apr 22 Earth Day
- Wed, Apr 23 9:00 PM Tech Talk, NCS Brian K4BRI, 146.925
- Sat, Apr 26 12:00 N VE exams at Salem Presbyterian Church, Mozart & Higbee, Westwood, behind the Boudinot Ave White Castle
- Wed, Apr 30 9:00 PM Tech Talk, NCS Rick KD4PYR, 146.925
- Fri, May 2 8:00 PM Amateur Radio Public Svc Corps, Hamilton Co Communications Ofc Conference Rm, 2377 Civic Ctr Dr – park in Bd of Educ lot
- Tue, May 6 7:30 PM Club meeting at Salem Presbyterian Church, Mozart & Higbee in Westwood-Cheviot behind Harrison-Boudinot White Castle  
Program: "Swap Meet Night", bring in your junk and trade it for other people's junk!.. BUY SELL TRADE!!!!

On Behalf Of Ernie Howard W8EH, Sent: Wednesday, February 27, 2008 4:51 PM

### **[Dial] Buying a new digital TV converter box**

The digital TV transition (DTV) is now 11 months away. If you use an antenna or rabbit ears to receive TV, you may need these new digital TV converter boxes. If you have a new TV that says that it has an ATSC or DTV tuner, you won't need a converter box. If you have use of only cable or satellite, you don't need a converter box. But if you have a bunch of old TVs sitting around that don't have a new ATSC or DTV tuner, you will need a DTV converter.

If you haven't applied for your free \$40 government coupons, go here and do it right away - <http://www.dtv2009.gov/>  
The NTIA (federal government) is giving away two \$40 coupons to each household to help you purchase one of these DTV converters.

These new DTV converter boxes have finally hit the store shelves. You can use them now, as the local TV stations are broadcasting in both the old standard analog format as well as the new fully digital format (with crystal clear pictures).  
Now, which box to buy?????

I've been reading reviews on the available Digital TV converter boxes that can be purchased with your government coupon. (My coupon is expected in the next few weeks according to their website.) Once you get a \$40 coupon, you will want to know which box to purchase, so below are some details. But the short answer is to get the Zenith at HH Gregg. That one will cost you \$10 + the coupon + tax.

So far the boxes that are at the top of the recommended list include these two below. They both have remotes that

allow you to program them to control your TV volume. They both have buttons on the box that allow you to change channels without a remote. They both have the ability to manually add new stations without doing a full scan. They both are reported to have the latest generation ATSC/DTV chips that pull in the signals better than what has been on the market. They have electronic program guides and lots of other features.

Zenith DTT 900, Manufactured by LG. It is sold at HH Gregg for \$49, Circuit City for \$59.

Insignia NS-DXA1, Manufactured by LG, a clone of the Zenith box above It is sold at Best Buy for \$59.

The Zenith on sale at Circuit City: <http://www.circuitcity.com/ssm/Zenith-Digital-to-Analog-TV-Tuner-Converter-Box-DTT900/sem/rpsm/oid/204154/rpem/ccd/productDetail.do>

The Zenith on sale at HH Gregg:

<http://www.hhgregg.com/ProductDetail.asp?SID=9DF8B0651F344B3CA64FAEFF7793C317&ProductID=20363>

The Insignia on sale at Best Buy:

<http://www.bestbuy.com/site/olspage.jsp?skuId=8624081&st=insignia&lp=11&type=product&cp=1&id=1199495190393>

Other boxes that didn't make the top of the list, but may still be good enough:

Magnavox TB100MW9, Manufactured by Funai. The remote isn't as flexible, it can't be programmed to control your old TV's volume. It doesn't have channel change buttons on the box, so if you lose the remote you could be stuck. It is sold at all your local Walmart Stores for \$49.

[http://www.walmart.com/catalog/product.do?product\\_id=8283870](http://www.walmart.com/catalog/product.do?product_id=8283870)

RCA DTA800, You can only add new channels by doing a complete automatic scan. Possibly at a Walmart near you, \$49 [http://www.walmart.com/catalog/product.do?product\\_id=8343230](http://www.walmart.com/catalog/product.do?product_id=8343230)

Digital STREAM DTX9900 Not much said about this one yet. Possibly at a Radio Shack near you, \$59

If you want to read some Zenith and Insignia reviews, here are some links to click on.

[http://www.hdtvexpert.com/pages\\_b/Zenith\\_DTT900%20.html](http://www.hdtvexpert.com/pages_b/Zenith_DTT900%20.html)

<http://www.avsforum.com/avs-vb/showthread.php?p=13047439#post13047439>

<http://www.avsforum.com/avs-vb/showthread.php?p=13207542#post13207542>

<http://www.avsforum.com/avs-vb/showthread.php?p=13109313#post13109313>

73, *Ernie Howard W8EH*

## **ARDF Update: Bastrop St Park in E Central Texas to Host USA ARDF Championships**

By Joe Moell K0OV, ARRL Amateur Radio Direction Finding Coordinator (Contributing Ed)

March 5, 2008

Interest and participation in ARDF has been growing every year since stateside hams first competed at the World Championships in 1998. Beginning in 2001, we have held annual national championships to see who is best at the sport and to select our team members for the World Championships. The [Texas ARDF group](#) and the [Houston Orienteering Club](#) are combining to host this year's events to be held the second weekend of May. Thursday, May 8 is scheduled for arrival and equipment testing; 2 and 80 meter transmitters will also be on the air near the event headquarters. There will also be a get-acquainted meeting and drawing for the starting order. The 2 meter contest will take place Friday morning. Competitors will start in small groups made up of different age and gender categories, in the drawn order.

There are lots of photos, including one of our own Bob WA6EZV that Ye Ed tried to copy into this article (it wouldn't come). Much more of this will appear in the May *Q-Fiver*, if editing permits. If not, please follow the link:

<http://www.arrl.org/news/features/2008/03/05/10003/>

Since the endangered Houston Toad (see UGLY US Fish & Wildlife Svc photo!) breeds at Bastrop from February through April, the ARDF event cannot take place until May.



## OH-KY-IN 2007 Committee Appointments

Technical Committee Brian DeYoung K4BRI, Chair  
Volunteer Examiners Brian DeYoung K4BRI, Chair  
Membership Nathan Ciufo KA3MTT, Chair  
Education Gary Coffey KB8MYC, Chair  
PIO Bruce Vanselow N8BV  
*Q-Fiver* Editor Susie Scott N8CGM  
Historian Dale Vanselow KC8HQS  
Fox Hunters Chair Dick Arnett WB4SUV  
John M Hugentober Sr Memorial CW Proficiency Award  
Brian DeYoung K4BRI, Chair  
WebMeister Dale Vanselow KC8HQS  
Tech Talk Net Mgr Bruce Vanselow N8BV  
Fundraising Chair Bruce Vanselow N8BV  
TVI/RFI Chair Dick Arnett WB4SUV  
Silent Key Chair Bruce Vanselow N8BV

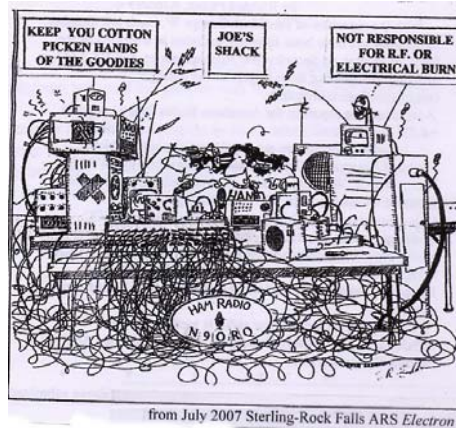
ARPSC Representative Peter J Feichtner III KC8BZM  
QCEN Representative Peter J Feichtner III KC8BZM  
WARN Representative Peter J Feichtner III KC8BZM  
Repeater Control Ops Mgr Bruce Vanselow N8BV  
Librarian James E. Keely KC8PRY  
Field Day Chair Nathan Ciufo KA3MTT  
Special Publications Jo Haltermon KD4PYS  
Equipment Mgrs Mike Hornsby KC8YOM  
David Hornsby KC8YTJ  
DXpedition Coordinator Eric Neiheisel N8YC  
[n8yc@arrl.net] 513-598-1659  
K8SCH QSL Mgr Gerry Weimer KD8ASL  
Life Members Kenneth E. Wolf N8WYC  
John W. Hughes AI4DA

□°°°□□,.,□°°°□□□°°°□□,.,□°°°□□□°°°□□□°°°□□,.,□°°°□□□°°°□□□°°°□□

## News of members and students in recent classes

### Condolences to the friends and family of

**W8CIT Larry L Linkmeyer** of Aurora. Larry belonged to Oh-Ky-In for years; he was listed under Silent Keys in the March 2008 *QST*. We didn't even know he was ill!



from July 2007 Sterling-Rock Falls ARS *Electron*

*Copy deadline for May 2-Fiver is Friday, April 18*